

**APPENDIX E: REGULATORY LETTERS REGARDING INCIDENTAL TAKE OF  
THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES**

## DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME



Eastern Sierra-Inland Deserts  
Blythe Field Office  
P.O. Box 2160  
Blythe, CA 92226  
760.922.6508

Ms. Teresa Newkirk Gonzales  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Colorado River Basin Region  
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, CA 92260

Subject: Water Quality Monitoring Activities

Dear Teresa:

The California Department of Fish and Game has reviewed your proposed water quality monitoring activities in the Palo Verde Irrigation District drains and Lagoon area. Some of these areas are occupied by the Razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*). Given the nature of the sampling activities, we concur with your conclusion that the potential for impact is very low. Based on the description and schedule of the monitoring activities provided in your letter, it is our determination that no permit will be required for this activity. Should the nature of the activity change such that the likelihood of impacts increase, we request that you contact our office so that we may work with you in determining the permitting requirements and how to minimize the potential for impacts. If you have any questions, please contact me at (760) 922-6508.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Hayes".

Chris Hayes  
Senior Environmental Scientist

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MAY 06 2002

REGION 7



# United States Department of the Interior

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Arizona Ecological Services Field Office  
2321 West Royal Palm Road, Suite 103  
Phoenix, Arizona 85021-4951  
Telephone: (602) 242-0210 Fax: (602) 242-2513



In Reply Refer to:

AESO/SE  
2-21-02-I-169

May 8, 2002

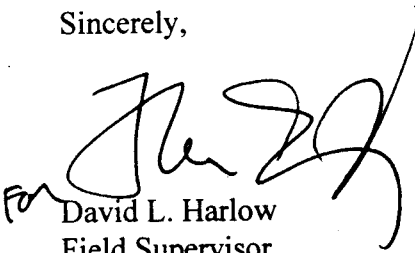
Ms. Teresa Newkirk Gonzales  
Senior Environmental Scientist  
Colorado River Basin Region  
California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100  
Palm Desert, California 92260

Dear Ms. Gonzales:

The Fish and Wildlife Service received your May 3, 2002, letter concerning the proposed water quality monitoring in the Palo Verde Agricultural Drain in Riverside and Imperial Counties, California. The drain water empties into the Colorado River south of Blythe, California. The proposed sampling protocol, as described in your letter, is not likely to adversely affect the endangered Yuma clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris yumanensis*), razorback sucker (*Xyrauchen texanus*) or have adverse effects to designated critical habitat for the razorback sucker. The Service concurs with this finding, and has no other concerns about this proposed action.

Thank you for coordinating this proposed action with our office. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Lesley Fitzpatrick (x236) or Tom Gatz (x240).

Sincerely,

  
David L. Harlow  
Field Supervisor

cc: Field Supervisor, Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office, Fish and Wildlife Service, Carlsbad, CA

W:\Lesley Fitzpatrick\PVID water quality.wpd:cgg

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